

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

DEFINITION: Under general direction, independently performs professional nursing work of considerable difficulty in providing for the physical, mental, and emotional needs of patients; performs related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Provides skilled nursing care to individuals, families and communities; coordinates patient care with medical and other providers; makes referrals to appropriate service provider to order equipment (i.e. walkers, wheel chairs); applies care to wounds; provides home health care, post-operative, pre-natal care, postpartum/newborns and other hospital and clinic referrals and case findings; consults with physicians.

Performs acute communicable disease follow-ups such as measles, pertusis, plague, tuberculosis, hantavirus, etc.; reviews referrals, determines urgency and assigns to appropriate workers; writes and submits quarterly reports on communicable disease issues; meets with Community Health Workers to exchange information on patients.

Performs home health visits including checking blood pressure, glucometer test for diabetes, temperature, physical assessment and checks medication; arranges transportation; assesses social situation; schedules and discusses appointments with patient; may transport seriously ill patients; provides instructions regarding the use of equipment such as nebulizers, oxygen concentrators, wheel chairs, etc.

Tracks referrals and provides patient follow-up; conducts hearing and vision screening; provides influenza shots; develops and implements care plans and immunization monitoring; provides patient health/wellness education; provides disease prevention in-service and updates; maintains assigned vehicle.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of various methods of providing homemaker and/or home health aide services to patients.

Knowledge of the principles and practices of providing health education services.

Knowledge of communicable diseases and prevention.

Skill in diagnosing various health and disease issues affecting the Nation.

Skill in interacting with patients with poor health practices and helping them to improve their health.

Skill in providing counseling and care to patients on health practices.

Skill in providing group presentations.

Skill in operating specialized equipment.

Skill in managing ambulatory, acute, home health and chronic care services.

Ability to plan, direct, and coordinate emergency medical care programs.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with the public, employees and officials.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work involves moderate effort in traveling long distances throughout the Navajo Nation to provide health services to the disadvantaged.

THE NAVAJO NATION

Class Code: 3792
Community Education and Counseling Series
Community Health Group
Overtime Code: Exempt
Pay Grade: 66

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Bachelor's degree in Public Health Nursing, Nursing, or related field; and two (2) years experience in the public health nursing field.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must possess licensure as a Registered Nurse (R.N.), a valid state driver's license and a Navajo Nation Vehicle Operator's Permit.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, incumbents may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.